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1899...

CATALOGUE

OF

# Strawberry Plants

AND

# Gladiolus Bulbs,

GROWN BY

M. CRAWFORD,

Cuyahoga Falls, O.

....NOTICE....

I have lately purchased from Mr. Fluier Taylor, of Nauvoo, 111, the names of all the customers and correspondents of the Nauvoo Fruit Company, which he succeeded in business, and I hope that Mr. Taylor's customers who transfer their patronage to me will have no reason to regret the change. Under the circumstances some persons will be likely to receive two catalogues. All such are respectfully requested to hand one to some other person who is interested.

As some of my customers know, I spent the summer of '97 in Pennsylvania, for my health. When I came home in October I found it a duty to go to Canada to see an old friend who was ill, and who died while I was there. On my return in November the plants were covered with snow, and we could not tell very well how many there were. We made an estimate, but it was far too high, and before spring came I had received orders for more plants of some varieties than I had. It then became necessary to buy plants, or to have orders filled elsewhere. This, in some cases, added to the express charges, and caused delay at times. As I issued no fall price list this is my first opportunity to say that I am ready and anxious to make all right. This year my stock is large and I hope to have enough for all.

TO MY CUSTOMERS.

I commence to fill orders as soon as I can dig plants-about the first of April-and carry on the work as fast as possible. never have plants taken upin the fall and kept over, to be ready for early orders, but take them up when wanted. I have every convenience for filling orders, and can send plants with perfect safety to any part of the country. I warrant my plants to reach their destination in good condition, and if for any reason they should fail to do so, I will make good the loss, if notified PROMPTLY. I will also correct mistakes if any occur.

Plants are packed in the best possible manner, in handle bas-kets lined with waxed paper and damp moss. They are trim-med, tied in bunches of 25, and labeled, with moss enough between the bunches to keep them in good condition for weeks early in the season. By this method the package is light (1.00 weigh about 30 lbs; 300, 10 lbs), it is always right side up and the

plants are never blanched or heated.

All the plants that I offer were grown on new beds set ou last spring.

When ordering late in the season please state whether I mag substitute other varieties in case those ordered are sold out. can often do this to advantage if permitted.

Money may be sent at my risk, by P.O. Money Order, Expressioney Order, Registered Letter or New York Draft. Less that a dollar may be sent in stamps.

stock of very choice varieties.

I can ship by the Adams, American, or United States Express. condition, and the great demand for plants last spring left few of the salable kinds to fruit. I expect to send to all my crs-tomers, next July, a report which will contain an impartial account of many varieties that are here on trial, which are not yet on the market, and a descriptive list of potted plants and layers for setting in the summer and fall. Also a list of Tulip and Daffodil bulbs for fall planting. Of these I grow a large

SPECIAL OFFERS.

To encourage early cash orders, before the rush of the packing season, I make the following special offers: For each dollar received before the first of April I will mail,

Six blooming bulbs of Standard Mixture; Twenty-five small bulbs-less than half-inch-of Standard

Mixture;

Ten small bulbs of Groff's Hybrids;

Ten small bulbs of my seed stock; or Two plants of the Downing's Bride strawberry, described on page 23.

## THE STRAWBERRY.

Avery (P).—Resembles the Haverland. A good grower and very productive. Fruit large and attractive.

Barton (P). — From Kentucky. A very luxuriant lower and an euormous bearer. Rather early, of large seq, regular form, bright red and of fair quality. A profit, ble market berry.

Beder Wood (B).—One of the best early varieties. A good grower and bearer, medium to large, roundish, light red, not very firm, of fair quality. Valuable for earliness and productiveness.

Belle (B).—Originated near Cleveland, O., some ten years ago, by M. T. Thompson. Were it not that so many of the berries are cockscombed, this would be one of the best ever sent out. The plant is vigorous, healthy and prolific. Its blossom is perfect, and unusually hardy. Fruit very large, deep, glossy red, and of fine quality. Season late.

Bisel (P).—A very profitable market berry. It is not only a good grower and bearer, but the fruit brings an extra price in the market. It is large and attractive, and one of the most reliable.

Bismark (B).—"A cross between the Bubach and Van Deman. The plant resembles the Bubach in every way only more robust and stocky, with the same iron-clad foliage. The berries are produced in abundance, out yielding Bubach. Shape, obtuse conical, never cockscombed, and is the heaviest berry we have ever seen or grown. Color bright scarlet, no green tips, very firm, good flavor and shipper. Season medium to very late. Size, larger than Bubach."—Fruit.

Carrie (P).—"A seedling of Haverland, which it resembles closely, but it is an improvement over that variety in color and firmness. It has been on trial here two seasons, and has proved satisfactory in every respect. It has the fault of the Haverland, of long fruit stems, which expose the fruit to injury by trampling of careless pickers. Every fruit grower, however, will appreciate an improved Haverland, because of its prolificacy and reliability, hence it seems safe to recommend the Carrie to their consideration."—Ohio Exp. Sta.'s Report.

Not fruited here.

Carrie.—"Medium in plant growth. Berries large, conical in form, and of a dull dark crimson. The flesh is dark, somewhat salvy and lacking in quality, while the long form is objectionable in a market sort.—Mich. Ex. Sta.'s Report.

This variety was well advertised before its introduction. It was on trial at the Ohio Experiment Station, and, after it fruited, the horticulturist there, Prof. W. J. Green, was repeatedly inquired of concerning it. The originator put the various answers together and made a bulletin of them, then had envelopes printed to resemble those sent out by the station, and mailed this counterfeit bulletin to agricultural and other papers over the country. Many editors printed it supposing it to have come from the Ohio Experiment Station.

Clyde (B).—This is a favorite in nearly all parts of the country. It combines healthy, vigorous growth, great productiveness, large size and fine appearance to a remarkable degree. The only weak points in it as far as I have heard, are its being too light and a little inclined

to rot if too wet when ripening. All in all, it is a great favorite.

Cobden Queen (P).—This is a noted market berry from southern Illinois. It has been extensively grown, and is highly spoken of by growers. It is a seedling of Wilson and resembles that variety in shape, but is of a much brighter color. The introducer sent it out with the following claims:

"Its fine size and beauty attract the attention of the best buyers. It is of the highest flavor, satisfying the most fastidious taste. It ripens three days before the Creccent. It is a large, deep-rooted plant, with abunddant, healthy foliage, which gives it the capacity to bear large crops of fine-sized berries. It has been tested successfully from Canada to Louisiana, which shows it has a constitution to withstand any climate in the temperate zone."

Not fruited here.

"The Cobden Queen strawberry is still demonstrating its superiority. It sold for the highest market price in Chicago this season. It is truly a wonderful berry and ere long will be as well known and as extensively planted as the Crescent."—Fruit and Vegetable Grower.

Crawford (B).—Originated by myself. A remarkable berry under high culture. Plant large, healthy, vigorous and productive. Fruit very large, roundish, conical, sometimes uneven on the surface, but not misshapen. Color dark, rich, glossy red. Flesh\_firm\_and high-flavored.

Darling (B).—Originated by M. T. Thompson, who says:

"If there ever was a berry that would produce 1,000 bushels per acre, it is this one." His sons say in their 1897 catalogue: "This year we desire to call your special attention to Darling, as early with us a 'Earliest' and the most productive early berry we have ever

tested. Will stand drouth better than most any other variety except 'Earliest' we have ever grown."

A. I. Root, of Ohio, E. J. Hull, of Pennsylvania, and W. F. Allen, Jr., of Maryland, all good judges, report unfavorably on Darling and Earliest. I do not recall one favorable report for 1898. Not fruited here.

Earliest (B).—Sent out by M. T. Thompson's Sons, of Va., as being unequaled for earliness, size, color and productiveness combined. Mr. A. I. Root, publisher of Gleanings in Bee Culture, has this to say of the Earliest:

"The shape is perfect; the color is perfect also. In flavor it is one of the very finest of the tart berries. The plant is a rampant grower; those set out last fall have a mass of foliage as large as a bushel basket. With us it has been at least two weeks in time of ripening ahead of Michel's Early." A friend in Pennsylvania who has fruited the Earliest gives a very unfavorable report of it. Not fruited here.

#### TWO NEW BERRIES.

Six years ago my good friend John Little, of Canada, brought two seedling strawberries for me to test. He considered them the best of all his seedlings, and he raised a large number. I have grown them with great satisfaction ever since, but the stock was never increased to any extent, as I was not aware that I was to sell them until shortly before his death. Last spring I planted out all I had but the stock is not large enough to warrant my offering them before next September when they will be regularly introduced. It has occurred to me that some of my customers would rather pay a dollar for two plants this spring than for six or even twelve next fall. And to accommodate such I will send one of each, or two of either one, to any address for one

dollar. Not more than two of each sent to one address. One has been named Emperor and the other Empress. They are good growers and bearers, and of large size. This is all I wish to say concerning them at this time. When offered next fall, a full description and photoengraving of each will be given.

Giant (B).—Large and late, a good healthy grower and an abundant bearer. Remarkable for firmness and keeping qualities. Roundish, light red and attractive.

Glen Mary (B).—Originated in eastern Pennsylvania. It and Brandywine were sent to me on trial at the same time. Within 90 days from the time I received them I had sixinch berries on the Glen Mary. In order to see what it would do under high culture I potted plants early and planted them in very rich sandy soil. The next year it was nowhere compared with Brandywine. The fruit was large but very uneven, and not produced in sufficient quantity. For that reason I did not buy it. It is conceded to be a good variety in most places.

Hall's Favorite (B).—From Maryland. Introduced in 1897. For healthy, vigorous growth, it is hardly surpassed. The danger with all such varieties is that the plants will be allowed to stand too thick on the ground, preventing the fruit from growing as large as it would with more room. This variety was fruited over a wide area last year (1898), and it has given general satisfaction. The Strawberry Culturist says:

"Hall's Favorite is certainly very large and finecolored. It is better in quality than Bubach, by far, and as a grower the Bubach is no comparison. Hall's Favorite equaled the Crescent in plant growth when I saw it in fruit. The fruit had not been picked for several days and notwithstanding it was rainy at the time, seemed to be about as firm as Bubach. The plant is entirely healthy."

Not fruited here.

Haverland (P).—Originated in 1882 by B.[H. Haverland, near Cincinnati, and introduced by him in the spring of 1887. No other party had it for sale that spring. M. T. Thompson introduced it to his customers later on, and he purchased part of his plants from me.

The Haverland is a good, healthy grower, and very productive. Fruit large, rather long, bright red, moderately firm, and only medium in quality. The fruit stalks are tall and weak, so that the berries lie on the ground, making mulching a necessity.

Hunn (P).—Originated in 1888 with Prof. C. E. Hunn, of the New York Experiment Station. From the time it first fruited until now it has surpassed all others as a vigorous and prolific late strawberry. It is large, of regular shape, very uniform in size and appearance, dark red and of good flavor. Nearly a week later than Gandy.

Ideal (B).—This is a very valuable variety, and it seems to do well everywhere. It is more remarkable for possessing all the desirable characteristics in a high degree than for any great superiority in one or two respects. It has no weak point. The plant is a vigorous grower, healthy and productive. Fruit large, regular in form, dark red, firm and of excellent quality.

improved Parker Earle (B).—Originated by J. L. Arnout, of Pennsylvania. This is supposed to be the most productive variety in existence. I know nothing of its history, but if it is simply a selection of the best plants

of the Parker Earle, carefully grown and selected from year to year, it may well be all that is claimed for it. I have not fruited it, but am confident from the reports of those who have seen it in bearing that it is wonderfully productive, of large size, fine appearance and good quality.

It has made a good growth here, producing an abundance of fine, healthy plants. The fruit is said to have a shorter neck than the Parker Earle, with the calyx turning back from the berry giving it a fine appearance.

Isabelia (B).—This has done well here. It is a good grower and bearer, and the fruit is of good size and attractive.

Klondike (B).—Originated in Massachusetts, where it has made a good record. The fruit was sold in Lawrence at wholesale, for 17c. and 18c. per box when other kinds sold for less than two-thirds as much. First picking June 23, last picking July 17.

"The plant is a vigorous grower, with thick, dark green foliage, free runner, and a great bearer. Late in blooming, and seldom injured by late frosts. Berry is dark red when ripe, red clear through, very large and beautiful, almost always of uniform size, and has a distinct flavor of its own. Its large size and beautiful appearance sell it as soon as put on the market."

Not fruited here. Order early.

Leo (B).—Not fruited here. I first heard of this variety last May, through a correspondent in Illinois. It has fruited five years in southern Ohio, where it has made a great record for size, specimens having been exhibited from three and one-half to four inches in diameter. The originator is well posted on varieties, and he thinks this and the Nick Ohmer are the two great berries now in the market.

The Leo is a seedling of the Effie, which was grown from seed of the Barton's Eclipse. It was shown at a strawberry show in Montgomery County, where it attracted great attention on account of its size. It has not been regularly introduced, nor is there a large stock in existence. Although planted very late, it made a good growth, and all my customers may expect a full account of it in July.

Lloyd (P).—Sometimes called Seaford. It was found on a piece of new land in Sussex County, Delaware, about seven years ago, by a Mr. Lloyd. Mr. W. S. Todd, who knows all about this berry, has this to say concerning it:

"The Lloyd is the largest, finest, most perfect and productive berry yet introduced. Plant, extra large, light green, and has a strong pistillate blossom. It puts up from one to three and four blossom stems, which makes its fruiting season so long; ripening earlier than Bubach and continues to bear lots of good berries until Gandy is about gone. In color it is a deep, bright glossy red, ripens to the center and is very solid. The quality is the very best. The berries are perfectly solid and will bear shipping to distant markets. The Lloyd began to ripen several days earlier than Bubach and was much better in every way. By actual count it produced four times as many quarts as Bubach."

Not fruited here.

Marshall (B).—From Massachusetts. This is one of the finest berries, all things considered, now before the public. It is so well and favorably known that it is almost useless to describe it. The plant is large and stocky, a vigorous grower and a good bearer. It has rusted sometimes, and the number of berries on a plant is not so large as on the Parker Earle, but if counted in quarts it is productive. It is the earliest of all the very large varieties, and it usually matures all its fruit. The berry is very large, of regular form, dark glossy red, very beautiful, and of fine quality. There is no other variety in the market to compare with it in its season. It is the great berry in New England, and has captured most of the prizes at the great Boston show for years. No careful grower who takes pride in his berries can afford to leave out the Marshall.

**Manwell** (B).—"A cross between Sharpless and Crescent. It is not immensely large, but its great beauty, firmness, earliness, good flavor, productiveness and vigor, combined with good size, make it exceedingly popular."—Introducer.

"Being detained here on business, and being an old strawberry grower, and hearing of a new variety (the Manwell) I visited the grower's grounds to look up its merits. He has about two acres of strawberries, all receiving the same culture: Parker Earle, Warfield, Crescent, Bubach, Glendale, Beder Wood and Manwell, besides new plantations of other kinds for next year's testing. Though last year was dry and a hard year for strawberries in this section, all his plants looked fine: the matted rows were well filled with plants, the Manwell, if anything, showing the greatest vigor. But the crowning thing was the productiveness of this variety, it being by actual tally 50 per cent. ahead of the Warfield and Beder Wood, with good pickings yet to add to this record, and berries averaging more than twice the size. It began ripening its fruit from two to four days later than Warfield and Beder Wood, while these kinds had their last picking on the 22 inst. I saw many berries that measured five and a half inches in circumference, and of such bright, glossy crimson, the seeds being sunken a trifle, that the Warfield at its best made a very poor showing, as also with the Parker Earle, on the grower's soil-black loam."-Editor American Gardening.

The Manwell has made a good growth here, but has not fruited.

Margaret (B).—This variety was originated about six years ago, by John'F. Beaver, of Dayton, Ohio, from seed of the Crawford. It has made a remarkable record—perhaps never equaled in the world—and is offered with great confidence. It responds readily to good culture, and all careful growers may expect it to produce the finest fruit in great abundance.

The plant is large and healthy, and so vigorous in growth that it will mature its last berries and continue green and luxuriant while an abundance of strong runners are produced. The foliage is dark green, and so clean and healthy looking that it is a pleasure to work among the plants. The blossom is perfect and one of the strongest ever seen. It commences to ripen soon after the early varieties, and bears until nearly all others are gone. With a good chance its berries are all of large size. The plant in its habit of growth and productiveness is faultless.

The fruit is usually conical, sometimes rather long, but never cockscombed or misshapen, often necked. The color is dark, glossy red, and the berries are not inclined to have white tips.

The large green calyx adds to its beauty. The flesh is firmer than most very large berries, and of excellent flavor.

For healthy, vigorous growth, productiveness, size, beauty and quality, the Margaret is a remarkable variety.

Mr. Beaver is one of the most successful growers in the country, and his opinion of the Margaret is that it is the best late variety yet produced.

Mary (P).—From New Jersey. This is one of the very largest in cultivation. The plant is very strong and healthy, and bears a good crop. Its weak point is that it is of only ordinary quality.

Michigan (B).—"The latest of all strawberries and the best of all late varieties. It is not only a handsome, firm berry, equaling in size the Gandy, and of high quality, but ripened from five days to one week later than that superb variety, in fact when Gandy is at its best, Michigan begins to show color upon its first ripening berries. The plant is a strong, healthy grower, with clean, luxuriant foliage and exceedingly productive."—Originator.

McKinley (B).—Introduced by Ellwanger & Barry, who claim that it is a superior strawberry, being remarkable for its size, shape, color and quality. It has been tested in many places, and every report of it, as far as I have seen, is favorable. It fruited here in a small way and I am very favorably impressed with it. Indeed I am confident that it will be a very popular variety, and will succeed over a wide area.

The plant is remarkably healthy and vigorous, and one of the most productive ever fruited here. Fruit large, of good form, running from round to rather long, resembling the Haverland or Parker Earle. Color, bright red. Flesh firm and of good quality. Good for home use or distant market.

Morgan (B).—Said to be a seedling of the Triomphe de Gand, fertilized with the Sharpless. It is a very luxuriant grower and a good bearer. In 1897 when nearly all varieties showed the effects of the great drouth, this and the McKinley, which were growing side by side, were green and thrifty during the entire summer. It is a good bearer, and the fruit is very large, dark red, of medium firmness, and excellent quality. Splendid for home use or a near market. Not fruited here,

Nick Ohmer.—For market, for home use, or for exhibition, this is probably the greatest perry ever offered. It is certainly the most desirable variety that has come under my observation. It is my candid opinion that all who grow the Nick Ohmer will be astonished at its healthy, vigorous growth and great productiveness. The fruit will be a surprise to all who see it, being of mammoth size, beautiful form and color, and excellent quality.

The Nick Ohmer was originated by Mr. John F. Beaver, who is conceded to be the most successful strawberry grower in Ohio. He named it for his friend, N. Ohmer, who has been president of the Montgomery County Horticultural Society for more than twenty years, and is ex-president of the State Horticultural Society. Mr. Beaver has fruited nearly all the leading varieties ever introduced in this country, and some from Europe, and when he says that the Nick Ohmer leads any variety he has ever grown, it means a great deal. It has grown here for four years, and I do not remember to have seen any rust on it, but, of course every variety will rust under certain conditions. I have sent it to a number on trial, and have yet to hear the first unfavorable report. I have no other expectation than that it will become one of the leading varieties, and if restricted to a single one, it would be my choice.

The plant is very large and stocky, sending out plenty of strong runners. It is probably not surpassed in healthy, vigorous growth and great productiveness by any variety. It has a perfect blossom. The fruit is of the very largest size, a giant among strawberries. It is never misshapen. Its only departure from the regular, roundish, conical form is when, under high culture, it is somewhat triangular. It is dark, glossy red, firm

and of excellent flavor.

"I am very glad to say that the Nick Ohmer strawberry has again proved itself superior to anv I have on the place, and I have seventy varieties producing fruit this year. It made a fine show last year, but was still better this year, and leads any variety I have ever grown. The first berry ripening on a cluster is inclined to be a little uneven, but not misshapen, and might be taken for a different berry from the others. It is of the best quality and averages quite large to the last picking. The fruit is very firm and is produced in abundance, there being from one to five clusters on plants set about August 10th."

"The Nick Ohmer behaved very handsomely this, as well as former years, producing an abundance of immense berries of a very superior quality. Mr. John F. Beaver honored me greatly by giving it the name that he did."

N. Ohmer.

"The Nick Ohmer is undoubtedly the largest and best shaped strawberry of all the new varieties. Having a perfect blossom and being a valuable variety for marketing, it is certainly a wonderful strawberry. The plant is simply wonderful."

J. P. Ohmer.

"The Nick Ohmer strawberry is all that has been claimed for it. It is a vigorous grower, free from rust, very large plant and produces in abundance extra large berries of good shape, good flavor and good color."

J. P. OHMER.

"Mr. M. Crawford, Cuyahega Falls. O .:

As you are going to introduce the Nick Ohmer strawberry this spring, I am satisfied that you never saw a finer berry grown. I have been acquainted with it for several years. It is a very strong grower, having a deep green foliage, a perfect blossom. Last summer, when Mr. Beaver brought a dish of them to show to his friends on the Dayton market, we were made to believe that we were 'not in it.' It was the town talk for some time afterwards. The berries were uniform in size, having a deep crimson red in color. I have been in the berry business ever since chi'dhood, and am 44

berry."

years of age, and never saw such a dish of berries before. Growers should give it a trial."

Yours, Geo. F. Mumma.

JOHN K. BECK.

Hampshire Co., Mass., July 31, 1897.
"I did not get well rooted plants of the Nick Ohmer last season till quite late, but I made the best of them

last season till quite late, but I made the best of them and they have produced some wonderfully fine berries this summer. They were extra large and every one perfect in form. I am satisfied that it will prove to be a valuable, long-bearing variety, but I want to try it another year before reporting."

E. C. Davis.

The following is from the president of the iOhio School of Business:

DAYTON, O., Jan. 12, 1898.

"I had the pleasure of visiting Mr. J. F. Beaver's strawberry patch last June. He had seventy varieties bearing fruit. The Nick Ohmer, one of his seedlings, was superior to any other variety on his premises. To see the many large, dark colored, beautiful berries, firm and of good quality, was a sight not soon to be forgotten. The Nick Ohmer plant is a strong grower, dark green healthy foliage, a staminate variety, fine flavored and very productive. I would call it the ideal straw-

Ocean City (B).—Quite satisfactory here both in plant and fruit. It is a good grower, healthy and productive. Fruit large, firm, attractive and good.

Pet (B).—I received this from Mr. E. J. Hull a few years ago, and am much pleased with it. The plant is a strong, vigorous grower, and very productive. The fruit is not only of large size and fine looking, but it is of superior quality.

Parker Earle (B).—Originated in Texas, and generally succeeds wherever the ground is rich and moist. It

is so enormously productive that it can not bring its immense crop to great perfection without plenty of plant food and moisture. Under favorable conditions potted plants of this variety set out in the summer have yielded more than two quarts each over an entire bed containing 1,200 plants. The plant is faultless from the grower's standpoint. The nurseryman would like it to make more runners. The fruit is large, rather long, bright red, firm, and of good, though not best quality.

Ridgeway (B).—Originated by M. H. Ridgeway, of Indiana, who introduced it in 1897 with the following description:

"Plant large and stocky, possessing the ability to make a large number of strong, healthy plants. Leaf large, broad, heavy and dark green in color. Blossom perfect, a good pollenizer for pistillate varieties, as it

remains in bloom a long time. An ideal plant.

"Berry, large to very large, the typical form nearly round, largest specimens broadly ovate, but always smooth. Color, bright, glossy crimson, with golden seeds. Firm for so large a berry, and will stand shipping to distant market, except in a very wet time. Quality as good as the best; an almost ideal berry and one that will command fancy prices on any market."

After fruiting it another season, Mr. Ridgeway says it is all that was claimed for it, and more; that he believes it to be the best general purpose berry ever introduced; and that the plants remained as healthy through the great drouth of '97 as any variety on his place. It yielded more quarts to the acre than did the Parker Earle, which has been considered the most productive variety ever introduced. Last year it fruited over a wide area, and many growers have been enthusiastic in their praise of it. I have seen no unfavorable report of it.

Ruby (B).—Not fruited here. The demand for this variety was so great last spring that none were left to bear. That it is a valuable variety there is no doubt, as it has been well tested and is highly recommended by competent growers. It has made a fine growth here. The following account of it is taken from a bulletin sent out by the Ohio Experiment Station:

"Plant vigorous and prolific. Berries medium to large, conical, but often irregular, although not cockscomb.d. Color dark scarlet, glossy, mostly well colored, but sometimes with white tips. Flesh scarlet, firm and of good quality. Season medium to late.

"This variety has been on trial here several seasons, and has uniformly behaved satisfactorily. It is particularly to be commended because of its good color and firmness. The berries retain their size to the end of the season, and hold up in quantity. For this reason it may be classed with the late sorts, although it begins to ripen quite early. Some rust has been seen on the foliage, and in some cases the fruit has not developed fully, but these defects, if such they may be called, are so slight as not to may the value of the variety, hence it is recommended as worthy of trial."

It is recommended by Judge Miller, of Missouri, and E. B. Stevenson, of Canada, who are eminently qualified to judge.

Prof. Taft, of the Michigan Experiment Station speaks of the Ruby as follows:

"Plants are not of very large growth but are vigorous and the foliage is heavy. Berries large, flattened conical, very regular and even in form; color is rich, dark, glossy red. Flesh rich colored and juicy, firm and of best quality. The variety is excellent in plant, the berries are large, very handsome in appearance, and, as the quality is very high and the fruits are sufficiently firm to stand shipment well, it is a most promising sort. Vigor, 8.8; productiveness, 9; quality, 9.5; firmness, 9.5."

When we consider that 10 is perfect, the above rating is very high.

At a meeting of the Alton Horticultural Society, Mr.

Browne gave the following report on the Ruby.

"I have grown it about three years and it is about the best of all the berries I ever saw. I grow nothing but Ruby and Williams, which latter does well with me. I never failed to have a large crop of good berries.

"Last year the bed was neglected. I just ran the mower over it and let the weeds lie where they fell. This year I have a very

fine crop on it."

At the same meeting the Ruby captured first prize for best quart of largest berries, best quart for market and best quart for family use.

Sample (P).-Found growing in an old bed of the Leader in 1894, by J. D. Gowing, of Massachusetts. It was introduced last spring at \$5.00 per dozen, as the best variety ever put on the market. On June 26, 1897, over 150 strawberry growers, from various parts of New England, visited Mr. Gowing's grounds to see the Sample and compare it with such varieties as Glen Mary, Clyde, Haverland, Fountain, Enhance, Lovett, Beverly, Marshall, Wm. Belt, &c., all grown under similar conditions. All agre d that the Sample was a long distance ahead of all others in productiveness and general appearance. Some estimated that it would vield 500 bushels per acre, and the two-year-old bed nearly as much. I know of no berry that was ever introduced with better testimonials in its favor. The following is from an article in the Massachusetts Ploughman, written by one of the men who had been invited to see the berry, F. W. Sargent, of Amesbury, Mass:

"I must say that I never saw anything to equal the sight of fruit, the uniformity of shape and color, the great productiveness of the berry and vigorous growth of foliage, and this not only on the new beds, but on the old ones as well, and old plants that had been removed after fruiting last year were bearing heavily and showing nearly as vigorous growth as the new plants. Side

by side with such varieties as Marshall and Clyde it seemed to be far superior. I think every person there went away with the feeling that he had been well repaid for the visit and had seen what no doubt will prove to

be the coming strawberry.

"One word as to the flavor of the Sample. Through the kindness of Mr. Pratt I took home a basket of the fruit, which I kept until the following evening, when it was placed on the table with choice kinds of my own growing, and all pronounced it the best in flavor of the lot, although it had suffered from transportation on cars and carriage."

C. S. Pratt, the introducer, says:

"It is of large size and fine quality, quite firm, continues a long time in fruit. The berries are large to the last. For the marketman it is the best strawberry ever grown. I have nothing on my grounds that will begin to fruit like it. It will yield as many berries as the Haverland, and will average as large as the Bubach. It colors all over at once. A berry that will do that is the best one found yet. There is not a weak point in it. Foliage perfect, fruit perfect. Needs no petting; if there is a plant on every square inch of ground you will find as fine berries and as many in the center as on the outside of the rows where the sun and air could get at them."

The following was written by the editor of the New  $England\ Farmer$ :

"Some of the largest and most successful growers in Maine, New Hampshire and Massachusetts were there, and the universal expression was 'I never saw anything like it.' The habit of the plant is to send up one fruit stalk, but on this stalk were from 15 to 33 berries, each as perfect as though run in a mould, and as large, dark colored and handsome as the selected berries that appear at the strawberry shows. The berry is one that will please the most fastidious buyer. It is colored to the center and the flavor is mild and pleasant. Conservative growers estimated the yield at the rate of 500 bushels per acre. The Sample has given equally good results on the farm of the originator on a moist, dark

loam and on a light loam on higher ground. We were favored with a half-dozen plants for trial at our experimental farm this season, and find that it is doing as well with us as with Mr. Gowing. We consider the Sample the most promising variety introduced, and advise readers to try it in a small way next spring. We give this advice, not to help the originator and introducer so much as the individual grower, and firmly believe that every grower who takes the Sample for a main crop berry will add greatly to his income every year."

"The berry itself was a perfect one in shape, of good, bright color, and ripened at tip as well as at the stem end, making an agreeable contrast to some others that were yet white at the tip when over-ripe at the stem. The berries were very large for a well formed berry, though perhaps not as large as some of the misshapen berries that look like a half dozen poorly put together. It was not difficult to find fruit stems with 30 or more berries on them, and perhaps three or four ripe enough to pick. By the side of varieties whose foliage had rusted badly this was free from rust."—M. F. Ames, in American Cu'tivator.

I raised a few quarts of the Sample on spring-set plants, and am delighted with its behavior. I am confident that it will become a leading variety, and I hope that all my customers will order a few plants. One dozen, will make 1,000 next season if well cared for.

Order early.

#### THE MOST PRODUCTIVE.

"At the Massachusetts Experiment Station where a large number of strawberries are on trial, the following are the most productive five varieties: Sample, 461; Brandywine, 362; Howard's No. 14, 350; Glen Mary, 336; Clyde, 299."—S. H. Warren.

Seaford (P).—From Delaware. I do not remember to have heard a single unfavorable report of this variety.

Many who have fruited it rate it as the best ever introduced. The plant is large, healthy, and very productive. It commences to ripen rather early, and continues till late. The fruit is very large, roundish, regular in form, and very solid. Color, deep glossy red. Thought to be the same as the Lloyd. Not fruited here.

Staples (B).—Originated in southern Ohio, from seed of the Warfield. It is a healthy, vigorous grower, and exceedingly productive. Fruit roundish and usually necked; about the size of the Warfield, of average firmness, good quality, and the darkest in color of all strawberries.

Star (B).—Not fruited here. Sent out from Bridgeport, O., in 1897. Every good quality is claimed for this variety, as follows:

"It is one of the best berries that has been introduced to the public for years. After growing and testing nearly every berry in cultivation, we can truthfully say that we have none that compare with it for fine berries, for productiveness, for strong plants with leathery, healthy, green foliage, or for holding its berries well up from the ground. It comes nearer being the ideal strawberry than any we have seen. The berry is large and handsome in appearance, measuring 6 to 7 inches in circumference, on the average. It is as near perfection in shape as possible, somewhat resembling the Gandy, but not quite so dark. It is a beautiful, glossy crimson, and colors all over at the same time, being an ideal berry in every respect. All the berries average large from first to last, with no small or ill-shaped berries throughout the season. In quality it is of the best. All who have tested it pronounce it the best they have ever eaten. In productiveness we have never seen the equal of the Star. It matures all its berries in a dry season, possessing the greatest drouth-resisting qualities of any berry we are acquainted with,

having matured a full crop when all the ordinary varieties were complete failures. The plant is a vigorous and strong grower, deep-rooted and very prolific. Season of ripening is second early. For profit we know of no berry which will equal it. When grown beside Bubach, Haverland, Warfield, Sharpless and several of the newer varieties the comparison was very plainly visible. Its superiority in every point was very marked in quality, size and productiveness. Some of the berries were placed on the market, where they readily brought a fancy price, the average being, at wholesale, 17 cents per quart, at a time when no other sort would bring over six cents."

The report of the Rural New-Yorker on the Star is unfavorable.

Sterling (P).—Originated by myself over 30 years ago. It was so fine that a man in Cleveland offered \$1,000 for the variety from seeing a basket of the fruit. This is the berry that has given such satisfaction to T. B. Terry. I have not always offered it because it has disappointed so many. When carefully grown it is one of the best. It is a fairly good grower and bearer. The fruit is large, roundish, with a neck, bright red, firm and of best quality.

Sunnyside (P).—As good a grower as the Crescent. Very productive; very late; medium to large; firm; bright scarlet; of fair quality and very beautiful.

Warfield (P).—Originated in southern 1ll., and has largely superseded the Crescent. It is a good shipping berry, and being a good grower and bearer, it has become popular. It is early and one of our best keepers. Fruit roundish, with a slight neck, and quite uniform in shape and size, dark red and attractive.

Windsor Chief (P).-An old, well known variety,

noted for great productiveness and lateness. Some still consider it the best late market berry.

Wm. Belt (B).—Introduced by me in 1895. It is now generally conceded to be one of the great berries. For vigorous growth, great productiveness, size, beauty and fine quality it is one of the very best. It is grown by the acre for fancy fruit, and is generally mentioned in connection with the Marshall. One of my customers in Washington, who has the control of water, raises this variety to such perfection that eight of the largest fill a quart box, and sometimes it is too full to crate. The first berry to ripen on each fruit-stalk, under high culture, is apt to be cockscombed; all others are of regular form. It is bright glossy red, the ideal color for a strawberry. In J. H. Hale's catalogue of '98, one of the best, if not the very best, ever written, the Wm. Belt is spoken of as follows:

"Flesh, deep pink, very firm, rich, sweet, and high flavor-ED; A SUPERIOR BERRY FOR THE FAMILY OR FANCY MARKET, ONE OF THE FEW GREAT STRAWBERRIES that thrive on any but light, thin soil."

Woolverton (B).—From Canada. It has succeeded in all parts of the country, and is rated among the best we have for either market or home use. It is one of the very best to plant with pistillate sorts as it has a perfect blossom and continues in bloom a long time. The plant is a vigorous grower and a good bearer. Fruit large to very large, of good form and color, fine looking and of excellent quality.

Brunette (B).—Originated by Granville Cowing, of Indiana. This stands at the head for fine quality. It is only moderately productive. Form roundish conical, very dark, glossy and attractive. Excellent for home use where fine quality counts.

Brandywine (B).—Too well known to need any description. It has succeeded nearly everywhere, and is generally conceded to be one of the best. It combines productiveness, large size, fine appearance and good quality. Season, late.

"Downing's Bride."—Some of my customers will remember that a few years ago I sent out, as a premium for early orders, a strawberry numbered "1,000." It was not named at that time although I knew it to be valuable. It has given great satisfaction to all who have reported on it. After sending it out as I did, I was reluctant to name and introduce it, but it has been named, and I now offer it again as a premium on all orders received with cash before April first. Two plants will be sent for each dollar to those who request them.

Mr. Wm. F. Wise, of Virginia, who is an admirer of the Wm. Belt and raises it in great perfection, fruited the "No. 1,000" and reports as follows:

"'No. 1,000, is, in my opinion, superior to Wm. Belt in every respect, except a slight disposition to rust. No ill-shaped berries, not one; and neither love nor money can get one of the plants from me."

Among the friends who visited Mr. Wise's place and were interested in his experimental grounds were a Mr. Downing and his bride, and all were so well pleased with this variety that it was named "Downing's Bride." Mr. Wise is testing many new varieties and has some good berries much earlier than the Wm. Belt and "Downing's Bride," but he says:

"Nothing comes near them for our purposes in their season of ripening."

I hope to have a cut of this berry in my July report.

Gov. Hoard (B).—Originated by F. W. Loudon, of Wisconsin. The plant is strong and healthy, not often

affected with rust, and a good bearer. It blooms and ripens with the Warfield, and makes a good companion for that variety. Fruit very large, roundish conical, slightly flattened and usually necked. Color deep, brilliant red. The flesh is firm and of a rich and agreeable flavor.

Patrick (B).—From Wisconsin. "Patrick ranks with Clyde in productiveness and plant growth, and is extra early, being one of the first to blossom on our grounds. The plants have a light green healthy foliage and are very vigorous. Very productive of beautiful cone-shaped berries of good size and quality, and quite firm. I regard it as one of the most promising new sorts."—I. A. Wooll.

Not fruited here.

Stone's No. 130.—"A seedling of Greenville fertilized by Jessie. Strong healthy plant, color dark green, fruit large and plentiful, color dark red, flavor good. Combines the good points of both parents."—Originator.

Vories ().—Found in an orchard in eastern Kansas, by F. H. Vories, who has been growing it for market for several years. Judge Miller, of Missouri, has tested it for years and considers it well worth introducing. The plant is a healthy, luxuriant grower, and good bearer. It seems to do better on land that is not too rich. Last season Mr. Vories sent to market 190 crates from about an acre, and the season was unfavorable. The berries are uniformly large, but not of the largest size, running from one to one and a half inches in diameter. Color, bright, glossy red; flesh firm and of excellent quality.

Mr. Vories has tested a good many varieties for market, but has found none as good as the Vories. For this reason he relies mainly on it. It resembles the War-

field more than any other, perhaps, except that it does not have a neck.

It has not fruited here but I think it must be a desirable variety.

Young's Early Sunrise (B). — Perhaps this is the early berry that we have been looking for. As all the plants were sold last spring, I had none in bearing. I now have a fine stock, and hope to be able to fill all orders. The plant is a remarkably vigorous grower, perfectly healthy and makes as many runners as does the Crescent. A friend who has fruited it says it has given the highest satisfaction on the place, being earlier than the Michel, and larger and more prolific than the Crescent. Free from rust and perfectly hardy.

Fruit, bright scarlet, and extra early.

W. F. Allen says this is the same as Michel's Early.



#### HOW TO DO IT.

Years ago it was considered a great feat to raise 100 plants from one in a single season. Now we think but little of raising several hundred, or even 1,000. This is the way to do it. Give each plant about 50 square feet of surface that has been made rich. Mix plenty of well decomposed manure with the soil where the plant is set, just as if you were going to raise a hill of melons. Set the plant carefully, pressing the earth firmly about the roots, but not covering the crown. See that it never lacks water.

I have found it a good plan to take a large flower pot or a pail or box with good drainage, and place it near the plant. The water is to be poured into it where it can gradually soak into the ground. After the plant has started to grow, weak, liquid manure may be used instead of water. Success will depend largely on faithfulness in watering, and in layering the runners as soon as they are ready to root. If the drainage is good there is not very much danger of overwatering, but even then it is a mistake to keep the ground wet all the time.

It is the best way to give a good soaking in the evening and a hoeing the next day. This treatment will start a good many runners which will root in a few days. It is well to sink some three-inch pots near the plant and let the first runners root in them, when they are to be planted elsewhere and treated like the parent. They will soon send out runners too, and these must be layered promptly on all sides of the parent plant. If the largest possible number of plants is the object, the careful watering with liquid manure, hoeing and layering, is to be continued through the season. It is just possible to have the liquid manure too strong, and to use it too often, but there is little danger. If made from stable

manure it may be as dark as weak coffee; and if the drainage is good it may be applied every alternate day. If one's interest abates too soon, he will fall short of the greatest success.

#### TO CANADIAN CUSTOMERS.

I am glad to recommend to my customers in Canada, Mr. Wm. Blatchford, of Prospect Hill, Ont., who carries on the plant business that was built up by his father-in-law, the late John Little. He has a good collection and will add to it the best varieties that are produced in America, as soon as they come into the market. He grows strawberry plants only. Nearly everything that is new and promising in my catalogue can be obtained from him, without the danger of having it detained in the custom house.

#### "THE NEW HORTICULTURE."

I can most heartily recommend this book to my customers. Every fruit grower who aims to be intelligent should read it. It is entirely different from anything heretofore published, and is truly a wonderful book. It is directly opposed to much that we have considered sound, but it contains so much that is true that all should examine it. It will not only save you money but it will point out the reason why you have failed in the past. The author, H. M. Stringfellow, of Galveston, Texas, will mail you a copy for \$1.25.

#### STRAWBERRY LITERATURE.

Any of my customers who need information on strawberry culture, and will make it known when sending their orders, will receive printed instructions. I have a good supply in back numbers of Horticulture. Geo. F. Beede, of Fremont, N. H., has written a pamphlet on strawberry culture, that is very complete. He will mail it for five cents. Every commercial grower should send for a sample copy of *The Strawberry Culturist*, published at Salisbury, Md.

#### THE MERCEREAU BLACKBERRY.

This variety originated in New York state, and was introduced last year at \$5 per dozen. This is the variety that has been so highly recommended by one of the horticulturists of the New York Experiment Station. Not a root could be procured before last spring. The originator or owner has been growing it extensively for fruit. It is hardy, very large, and prolific.

Root cuttings, three inches in length, 50 cents per dozen: 100, \$2. By mail, prepaid.

#### THE RATHBUN BLACKBERRY.

This has been tested over a wide area for two or three years, and I think no one has heard an unfavorable report of it. It is the first hardy blackberry of large size. It is more than twice the size of the Snyder, very productive, and of most excellent quality.

Root cuttings, three inches long, sure to grow, 50 cents per dozen, by mail, 100, \$2.00.

#### THE LOUDON RASPBERRY.

This is doubtless the best red raspberry in existence, it is hardy, enormously productive, large, beautiful and good. I have a fine lot of plants grown from head-quarters stock. \$1.25 per 100; \$9.00 per 1,000.

#### PANSIES AND SWEET PEAS.

For a number of years I have raised these to great perfection. The pansy seeds were obtained from D. B. Woodbury, of Paris, Maine; and the sweet peas from S. T.Walker, Forest Grove, Oregon. I know of no persons who give better value for the money. Their catalogues are free.

### THE GLADIOLUS.

The gladiclus has been one of my specialties for more than 25 years. During that time I have purchased a very large number of named varieties both in this country and in Europe. I have also raised many thousand seedlings, having sown over 20 pounds of seed in a single season. A few years ago I purchased all the seed that could be found by the pound in this country and Europe. There is but one other party west of Long Island

that ever raised as many seedlings as myself.

I mention this to show that I have had every facility for becoming acquainted with the best that has been produced up to this time. My practice has been to save the very finest of both named varieties and seedlings from which to raise seed the following year. This seed stock is not surpassed by anything in the world. It is so valuable that but few would pay what it is worth. Last fall a wealthy lady asked me to save 700 bulbs for her of my best varieties. When told that they would cost over \$500, she changed her order. Every year I find new varieties that are worth more than the weight of the bulbs in gold. These choice kinds are propagated with great care, and when they become numerous a part of the stock is put into the "Standard Mixture." At the present time I have over 20,000 of the May that can not go into the mixture, lest that variety be in excess.

Seven years ago I sold 583,000 small bulbs to one of the largest growers on Long Island. The next year I sold one-half of all my stock to The Cushman Gladiolus Co.. of Euclid, O. About the same time I sold 100,000

#### GLADIOLI AS A MONEY CROP.

to Dr. Dallas, and purchased for him some ten pounds of seed, and rented land to him and taught him how to manage the crop. At his death, two years ago, much of the stock was purchased by Betscher Brothers of Tuscarawas County, O. The seed purchased for Dr. Dallas was obtained in Germany. The bulbs from it were offered by me one year as the "Dallas Seedlings." It was sold later as the "Betscher Strain."

During these years I have destroyed tens of thousands of inferior bulbs, and in '97 the bulblets of nearly all my stock of Standard Mixture, having all the bulblets I cared to sow, of choice, marked varieties. Last year I stock contains such a large proportion of named and selected varieties that it is easily superior to any mixed colors offered by any firm that sells under name or color.

When the Childsi varieties were first offered I purchased fifty dollars' worth, but was not pleased with them. I understand the stock is much better now. There is but little of the Childsi in my collection, but I have a large lot of Groff's Hybrids which are, by all odds, the finest stock ever offered. Before Mr. Groff commenced to raise his Hybrids I sold him several thousand bulbs, including some choice ones, and put him on the track of other specialists of whom he obtained many fine varieties. Of his first lot of hand-fertilized seed I was fortunate enough to obtain 14 ounces -all he had for sale by the ounce. This was in the spring of '95. I understand that none has been sold by the ounce since. From that 14 ounces I raised a very fine lot of bulbs, and have increased the stock as fast as I could. Almost none of it has been sold. While this seed was doubtless inferior to that now offered by Mr. Groff, it was very choice indeed. Groff's hand-fertilized seed is produced by a judicious crossing of the best varieties obtainable. It yields a larger proportion of good varieties than is ever found in seedlings from seed that was not hand-fertilized. It may contain blood of the gandavensis, Lemoinei, Nanceianus or Childsi. Of course this hand-fertilized seed is no better than seed fertilized by insects where the same crosses are made, but insects lack the judgment to choose the best varieties for mates.

This knowledge of varieties and species that enables one to make the best crosses, can only be obtained by long experience and an intimate acquaintance with the best that have been produced.

There is not another man in America that I consider so competent for this work as Mr. Groff, and, by the way, he is not now engaged in it, he having been chosen manager of a bank which required too much of his time

to admit of his carrying on this specialty.

Groff's hand-fertilized seed is costly—25 cents for some 40 seeds. It is for sale by leading seedsmen, and those of my customers who want to raise seedlings will-do well to buy it. I have bulbs from this seed, mixed with about one-fourth of my selected seed stock, for sale.

The Standard Mixture that I offer contains none of Groff's Hybrids, but it does contain a good many bulbs of seed stock, and a still larger proportion of seedlings from choice seed of my own growing. I sell this stock at \$1.00 per 100 by express, for first size bulbs. There is just one other man in the United States that sells as good mixed stock—Geo. Smith, of Stanton, Pa. I spent the summer of 1897 in that town, for my health, and raised half an acre of bulbs. The flowers were carried all over the county, and no fewer than four persons wanted to engage in the growing of bulbs extensively. Mr. Smith purchased a fine lot. I venture to say that a larger proportion of the people in Stanton grow choicer varieties of gladioli in their gardens than can be found in any other town in the country.

Few people plant gladiolus bulbs deep enough, and the result is that many are blown over. Small bulbs should be covered four or five inches, and large ones not less than six, and probably eight or ten would be better. If a high wind comes when the ground is wet, and the plants are in bloom, they are liable to break off at the bulb, and can only be prevented by some support. Deep planting furnishes the cheapest support, for the same reason that a bean pole set deep never blows over.

### GLADIOLI AS A MONEY CROP.

Market gardeners are learning that it pays to raise the gladiolus for cut flowers to carry to market. They make the load attractive, and they are in demand at a paying price. They will bring, even at a low price, more than enough to pay for the bulds, and the next year one will have twice the amount of stock without cost. There are many opportunities to sell bulbs, so that one can make it pay in two ways. A man of my acquaintance sold about one bundred dollars' worth of flowers last year, and disposed of a good many bulbs besides. A supply of flowers creates a demand, and they are used to decorate halls, churches, school rooms, stores and dwellings. If cut when they first commence to open and put in water, they will bloom quite as well as if left on the plant. They begin to bloom in July and may be had until freezing weather.

One thousand bulbs of the third size will produce 1,000 spikes, and about that many first size bulbs in the fall. The next season they will yield more than twice as many flowers and bulbs. When grown as a money crop they are planted in rows three feet apart and about four inches from each other in the row. The furrows are made as if for potatoes, and the bulbs are covered at least six inches. Just as they are ready to bloom the wings are put on the cultivator, and the rows are hilled up to prevent their blowing over. At the end of the growing season they are dug up, the stalks cut off close to the bulbs, which are then put in handle baskets to the depth of three inches, and hung to joists in the cellar, where they will not freeze. They require no attention till spring. They are never eaten by mice.

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#### PHICE LIST OF BULBS.

No. 1 No. 2 No. 3 No. 1			

CHOICE, GOOD's Hybrids and very line selected

No. 9	

TAY: White med pank, a great favorite with florada No. 1 20 1 (20); 1000

Seminal Mixture, small, less than \$5 inch; \$1.93 per

1,000, by express

Courts Hybrids, pure less than 1 100 h, \$1000 pm 100 by mail. Sund stock, very superior, sum size and occor-

I have a large stock of buildists, compression and an classes minded above. Prives given in applications.

Children such sared from the very finest substract spikes the new packet, #1.00 per courses.

When ordering by much add to the above prices on some result reach for No. 1 builty, our half read for No. 25 one touch court for No. 3, and may write court for No. 4.

No. 1 bollos are 11 s, inches an dimenter, and approache No. 2, 1 to 11 pinches; No. 3, 5, 6, 10 trade; No. 4, 5, 7 millional. All of the first three sizes will income not needs all of the foreth.

#### TESTIMONIALS

It has been my subdom beetsfore to joint a number of sussidiated beetimerials, but this year they were crossed and by more important matter.

M. CRAWFORD, Cuyahoga Falls, U